

1. In a messaging system, a method of handling a voice mail message of a subscriber comprising the steps of:

receiving an incoming call from a caller,
prompting the caller to leave a message,
recording the message on a voice mail server,
sending a copy of the message to an email server,
notifying the subscriber of the message sent to the email server, and
updating status of the message in the voice mail server and the email server when

the subscriber accesses one of the voice mail and email servers to retrieve the message.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising detecting on-line presence of the subscriber, and in response to said detecting, alerting an on-line subscriber of the presence of a new message.

3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein in said sending step, the copy of the message is an audio version of the message recorded on the voice mail server.

4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein in said sending step, the copy of the message is a text version of the message recorded on the voice mail server.

5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said notifying step includes providing a visual indication on a display.

6. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said notifying step includes providing an audio indication through a PC.
7. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said notifying step includes transmitting notification of the new message via Internet.
8. In a message management system, a method of handling an email for a subscriber comprising the steps of:
 - receiving an email message through an email server,
 - sending a copy of the message to a voice mail server,
 - converting the message to an audio format,
 - saving the converted message on the voice mail server, and
 - updating a status indicator for the message in the email server and the voice mail server when the subscriber accesses one of the email or voice mail servers to retrieve the message.
9. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein said converting step includes performing text-to-speech conversion.
10. An integrated message management system for processing messages including:

a voice mail server that records and stores voice mail messages, sends copies of voice mail messages to an email server, and includes a status indicator for each of the voice mail messages,

an email server that stores voice mail messages as email, sends notice of new messages to a subscriber, and includes a status indicator generator for generating an indication for each of the voice mail messages stored as email messages, and

a message manager that links together the voice mail server and email server, controls all interaction between the voice mail server and email server, updates the status indicator generator of a voice mail message on the voice mail server when the subscriber accesses the voice mail message as email on the email server, and updates the retrieval status indicator of the voice mail message as email on the email server when the subscriber accesses the voice mail message on the voice mail server.

11. The system as recited in claim 10, further including a presence server that provides indication as to whether the subscriber is connected to the Internet, and wherein the email server only sends notice to the subscriber if the presence server indicates that the subscriber is connected to the Internet.

12. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the email server also stores conventional email messages, sends copies of the email messages to the voice mail server, includes a status indicator for each of the email messages, wherein the voice mail server converts the email messages to voice mail messages using a text-to-speech conversion module, stores the converted messages, and includes a status indicator for each

converted message, and wherein the message manager updates the status indicator of a converted message on the voice mail server when the subscriber accesses the email message on the email server, and updates the retrieval status indicator of the email message on the email server when the subscriber accesses the converted message on the voice mail server.

13. The system as recited in claim 12, further including a presence server that provides indication as to whether the subscriber is connected to the Internet, and wherein the email server only sends notice to the subscriber if the presence server indicates that the subscriber is connected to the Internet.
14. The system as recited in claim 10, wherein the email server further includes a "voice mail stored as email" storage facility that stores said voice mail as email, and wherein the voice mail server further includes a voice mail box that stores said voice mail messages.
15. The system as recited in claim 11, wherein the email server further includes a "voice mail stored as email" storage facility that stores said voice mail as email, and wherein the voice mail server further includes a voice mail box that stores said voice mail messages.
16. The system as recited in claim 12, wherein the email server further includes an email storage facility that stores said conventional email messages and a "voice mail stored

as email” storage facility that stores said voice mail as email, and wherein the voice mail server includes a voice mail storage facility that stores said voice mail messages and an “email stored as voice mail” storage facility that stores said converted messages.